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CIA muzzling rebellion in Angola?

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—America's Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is backing Portugal's suppression of rebellion in Angola and Mozambique, it was alleged in court here on Tuesday, reports AFP.

The case concerns the export of the seven American B-26 bombers to Portugal and was brought by the Department of Justice on the grounds that export of armaments is forbidden by law.

One of the accused is 28-year-old ex-RAF pilot John Hawke. It was Hawke's lawyer who stated when the case started yesterday that he was working on the aircraft deal on behalf of the CIA.

Certain U.S. Government organisations, he said, wanted to keep secret the fact that they meant to help the Portuguese Government to suppress the rebellion in Angola and Mozambique.

There was silence from the CIA, but lawyer Edwin Marger asked the jury for an acquittal on the grounds that the U.S. Government was following two policies—one for public consumption and the other secret.

On trial with ex-pilot Hawke is Frenchman Henri de Montmarin.

They were arrested in Miami a year ago by agents of the Treasury Department, who according to Mr. Marger, knew nothing of the CIA's interest in the deal.

Several of the bombers had already left the country via Buffalo (New York) and the two men were let out on bail.